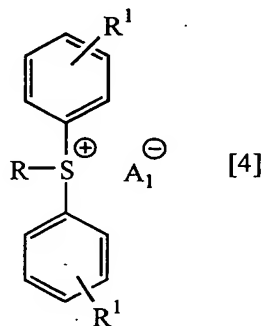


ABSTRACT

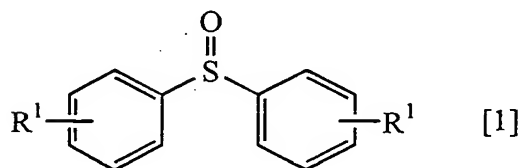
An object of the present invention is to provide a method for effectively producing a triarylsulfonium salt having a structure that only one aromatic ring of three aromatic rings on the cation portion thereof is different from the

other two aromatic rings (hereinafter, abbreviated as a triarylsulfonium salt relating to the present invention) in a high yield without forming any byproduct. The present invention relates to a method for producing a triarylsulfonium salt represented by the general formula [4]:



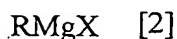
wherein, two R^1 's represent each hydrogen atom, halogen atom, alkyl group, haloalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy group, acyl group, hydroxyl group, amino group, nitro group or cyano group; R represents an aryl group which may have a substituent selected from a halogen atom, an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a N-alkylcarbamoyl group and a carbamoyl group, and the above substituent is different from one represented by the above R^1 ; and A_1 represents a strong acid residue,

comprising reacting a diaryl sulfoxide represented by the general formula [1]:



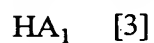
wherein, R^1 represents the same as above,

and an aryl Grignard reagent represented by the general formula [2]:



wherein, X represents a halogen atom; R represents the same as above, in the presence of an activator with high affinity for oxygen of 3 to 7.5 equivalents relative to the above diaryl sulfoxide, and then reacting the resultant reaction mixture with a strong acid represented by the general

5 formula [3]:



wherein, A₁ represents the same as above, or a salt thereof.